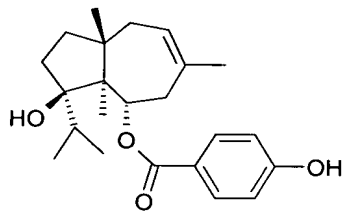
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

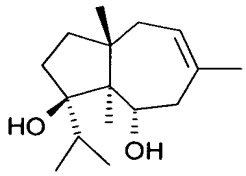
LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) A process for the preparation of ferutinine (**Ia**)



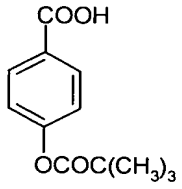
(Ia)

which comprises the following steps:
a) extraction of daucane esters from *Ferula spp*;
b) basic hydrolysis of daucane esters to give jaeschkenadiol (**II**)



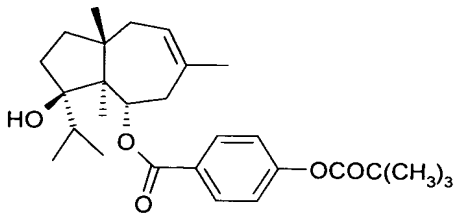
(II) ;

c) esterification of jaeschkenadiol (**II**) with *p*-pivaloyloxybenzoic acid (**III**)



(III) ;

to give *p*-pivaloylferutinine (**IV**)



(IV)

;

d) hydrolysis of *p*-pivaloylferutinine (**IV**) to ferutinine.

2. (original) Process according to claim 1 wherein daucane esters are extracted from *Ferula communis*.

3. (original) Process according to claim 1 wherein daucane esters are extracted from *Ferula hermonis*.

4. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-3~~ wherein daucane esters are extracted with supercritic carbon dioxide at temperatures ranging from 35 to 65°C and pressures ranging from 200 to 260 bar.

5. (original) Process according to claim 4 wherein the temperature is 45°C.

6. (currently amended) Process according to claim 4 [[or 5]] wherein the separation is carried out at temperatures ranging from 25 to 45°C and pressures ranging from 45 to 55 bar.

7. (currently amended) Process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-6~~ wherein steps c) and d) are carried out in sequence without recovering compound (**IV**).

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

11. (new) Method of preparing a cosmetic or dermatological composition, which comprises adding an effective amount of Ferula spp extract to an acceptable excipient.

12. (new) Method of preparing a cosmetic or dermatological composition , which comprises adding an effective amount of ferutinine to an acceptable excipient.

13. (new) Method of preparing a cosmetic or dermatological composition, which comprises adding an effective amount of *p*-pivaloyloxybenzoic to an acceptable excipient.